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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/788,612	02/27/2004	Jon Washington	D-1214	9216
28995	7590	10/18/2004	EXAMINER	
RALPH E. JOCKE 231 SOUTH BROADWAY MEDINA, OH 44256			PAIK, STEVE S	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2876	

DATE MAILED: 10/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/788,612

Applicant(s)

WASHINGTON ET AL.

Examiner

Steven S. Paik

Art Unit

2876



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 45-65 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 45-65 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the Preliminary Amendment filed February 27, 2004. The Amendment includes cancelled claims 2-44, amended claim 1, and newly added claims 45-65.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1, 45-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Youn (US 6,592,118).

Re claim 1, Youn discloses a media cassette for an apparatus (ATM) comprising:
an automated banking machine cassette (media cassette in Fig. 3), wherein the cassette includes at least one media storage area (interior space; col. 4, ll. 31-33), wherein the cassette includes a movable partition (a push plate 4) operative to direct media (col. 4, ll. 32-43) to at least one media storage area, and wherein the cassette is operative to either automatically lock or automatically unlock the partition (col. 2, ll. 29-35) responsive to movement of the cassette relative to an automated banking machine.

Re claim 45, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 1 stated above, wherein the cassette includes a partition lock arrangement (latching pin 24),

Art Unit: 2876

wherein the partition lock arrangement is operative to automatically lock the partition in a media directing position (col. 2, ll. 29-35).

Re claim 46, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 45 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement is operative to automatically lock the partition during removal of the cassette from an automated banking machine (Abstract).

Re claim 47, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 46 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement is operative to automatically unlock the partition during insertion of the cassette into an automated banking machine (col. 1, ll. 7-12).

Re claim 48, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 47 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement includes a movable projection button (locking release button 34), wherein the button is operative to engage a component of an automated banking machine, wherein the engagement is operative to move the button in a first direction, and wherein movement of the button in the first direction is operative to unlock the partition (col. 5, ll. 7-38).

Re claim 49, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 48 stated above, wherein movement of the button in a direction opposite the first direction is operative to lock the partition (col. 5, ll. 27-32).

Re claim 50, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 48 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement includes a torsion spring (return spring 38) and a lock arm (latching pin 24), wherein the torsion spring is connected to the partition, wherein the lock arm is operatively movable with the projection button (34),

Art Unit: 2876

wherein the torsion spring and a lock arm are engageable to lock the partition (col. 5, ll. 7-17).

Re claim 51, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 50 stated above, wherein the torsion spring includes an engagement hook, wherein the lock arm includes an engagement hook (Fig. 4 and 6), and wherein the hooks are operative to be placed in locking engagement to lock the partition (col. 5, ll. 7-17).

Re claim 52, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 50 stated above, wherein the cassette includes a partition drive lever (hook member 36) located at a first side of the cassette, wherein movement of the lever is operative to correspondingly move the partition.

Re claim 53, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 52 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement is located at a second side (inside) of the cassette, wherein the second side is opposite the first side (outside).

Re claim 54, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 53 stated above, wherein the torsion spring is operatively connected to the lever (Fig. 4 and 6).

Re claim 55, Youn discloses the media cassette as recited in rejected claim 54 stated above, wherein the torsion spring biases the partition toward a media directing position (Fig. 4 and 6; col. 5, ll. 5-17).

Re claim 56, Youn discloses a method including:

(a) providing an automated banking machine cassette (media cassette), wherein the cassette includes at least one media storage area (inside the cassette body 2), and

Art Unit: 2876

wherein the cassette includes a movable partition (a push plate 4) operative to direct media to at least one media storage area;

(b) performing at least one of

b1) removing the cassette from an automated banking machine, wherein the removing causes the partition to become automatically locked;

b2) inserting the cassette into an automated banking machine, wherein the inserting causes the partition to become automatically unlocked (Abstract; col. 1, ll. 7-12).

Re claim 57, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 56 stated above, further including performing both (b1) and (b2), wherein (b1) is subsequent to (b2), and wherein b1) and b2) comprise the same automated banking machine (Abstract).

Re claim 58, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 57 stated above, wherein the cassette includes a partition lock arrangement (latching pin) operative to lock the partition in a media directing position, wherein (b1) includes automatically locking the partition in a media directing position (col. 2, ll. 29-36).

Re claim 59, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 58 stated above, wherein (b2) includes automatically unlocking the partition from a media directing position (col. 2, ll. 29-36).

Re claim 60, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 59 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement includes a movable projection button (34), wherein the button is operative to engage a component of the automated banking machine, wherein the engagement is operative to move the button in a first direction, and wherein movement of the button in the first direction is operative to unlock the partition,

Art Unit: 2876

and wherein b2) includes engagingly moving the button in the first direction (Fig. 4 and 6).

Re claim 61, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 60 stated above, wherein the cassette includes a partition drive lever (hook member 36) located at a first side (outside) of the cassette, wherein movement of the lever is operative to correspondingly move the partition, and further including

(c) moving the partition responsive to movement of the lever.

Re claim 62, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 61 stated above, wherein the partition lock arrangement is located at a second side (inside) of the cassette, wherein the second side is opposite the first side, wherein the partition lock arrangement includes a torsion spring (38), wherein the torsion spring is connected to the partition, and further including

(d) biasing the partition toward a media directing position via the torsion spring (Fig. 6).

Re claim 63, Youn discloses a method including:

(a) automatically changing the locking status of a compartment guide (a push plate 4) of an automated banking machine cassette responsive to movement (inserting or removing) of the cassette relative to an automated banking machine, wherein the cassette includes at least one media compartment (inside of the cassette body 2), wherein the guide is operative to direct media to at least one media compartment, and wherein the guide is operative to be locked and unlocked (col. 2, ll. 29-36).

Re claim 64, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 63 stated above, wherein the guide is automatically placed in a locked condition during removal of

Art Unit: 2876

the cassette from an automated banking machine, wherein the guide is automatically placed in an unlocked condition during insertion of the cassette into an automated banking machine, wherein (a) includes automatically changing the locking status of the compartment guide (push plate 4) during one of removal or insertion of the cassette relative to an automated banking machine (col. 2, ll. 29-36).

Re claim 65, Youn discloses the method as recited in rejected claim 64 stated above, further including (b) subsequent to (a), automatically changing the locking status of the compartment guide (push plate 4) during the other of removal or insertion of the cassette relative to an automated banking machine (col. 2, ll. 29-36).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.


Black (US 6,786,354) discloses a media cassette including display means for displaying an indication of the contents within the cassette; Graef et al. (US 5,141,127) discloses a canister having plurality of buttons reflecting electrical conditions of switches.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Steven S. Paik whose telephone number is 571-272-2404. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri (5:30am-2:00pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on 571-272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2876

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Steven S. Paik
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

ssp